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[Vol. XXXIX, No. 3, January, 1912]

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The Heraldry of Beta Theta Pi

By GEO. M. CHANDLER, Michigan, '98,
(Second Article.)

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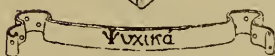
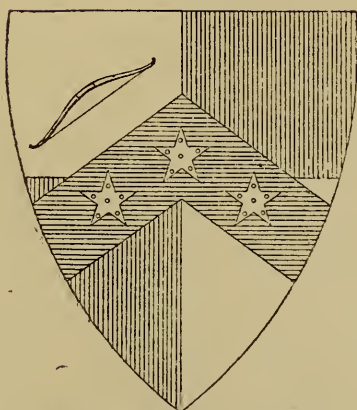
THE BETA THETA PI for November, 1910, contained under the above title a short history of the various Beta devices beginning with the badge and concluding with a series of pictures of eighteen coats of arms for as many different chapters.



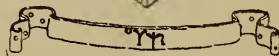
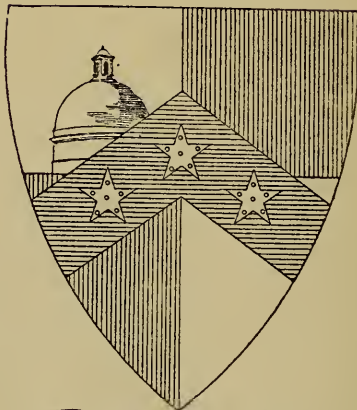
In that article the system on which the chapter arms were devised was described, the parent chapter bearing the fraternity arms unchanged but with a motto whose initial letter was Alpha and the nine oldest chapters bearing the fraternity arms differenced as for the nine sons in a family. There being in heraldry but nine marks of cadency and Michigan being the tenth chapter her arms were made by displaying the fraternity arms with the university arms charged on the first quarter with a motto whose initial letter was the chapter letter. Other chapters displayed suitable devices such as Brown, the anchor of Rhode Island and St. Lawrence, the

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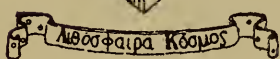
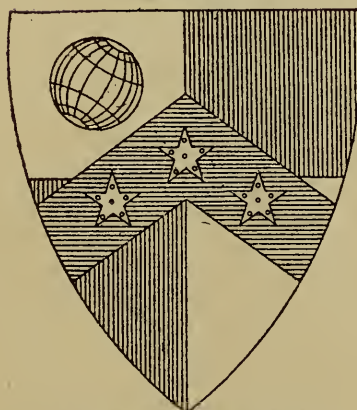
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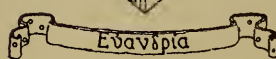
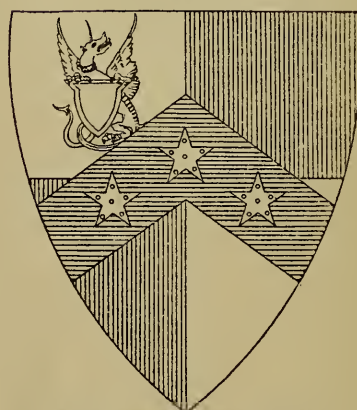
BETHANY



BOSTON



CASE



CENTRAL

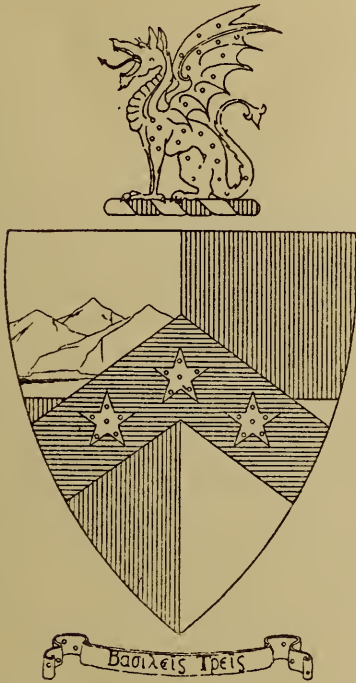
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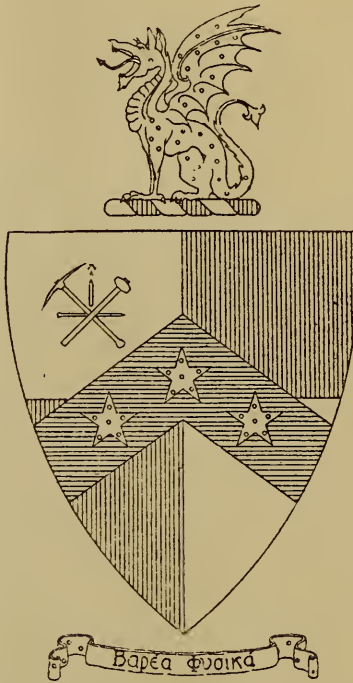
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five lyres of the old local society. Now under authority from the board of trustees the series has been finished and each of the chapters is provided with a suitable coat of arms.

Diligent search has been made in each case for a suitable device. The college and state seals have been procured, the history of the institution and of the chapter has been investigated, the heraldic bearings of the founder of the colony or state, of the founder or benefactor of the college, of the founder or perhaps most



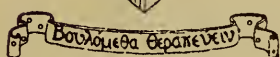
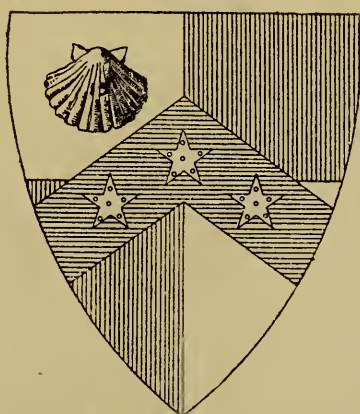
COLORADO



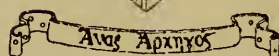
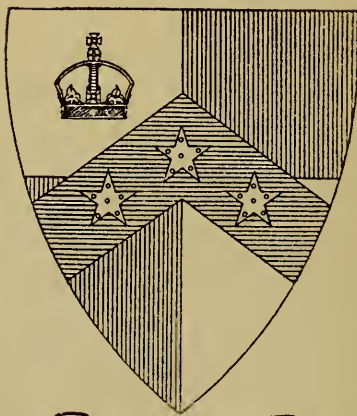
COLORADO MINES

prominent member of the chapter have been looked up in order that the most appropriate charge might be found. In most cases an excellent symbol was finally decided upon. In some others the selection was a harder task, but it is believed that the whole series as finally arranged will prove satisfactory and that in a few years each chapter's arms will be as familiar in its vicinity as our fraternity arms now seem to be in the college world.

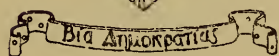
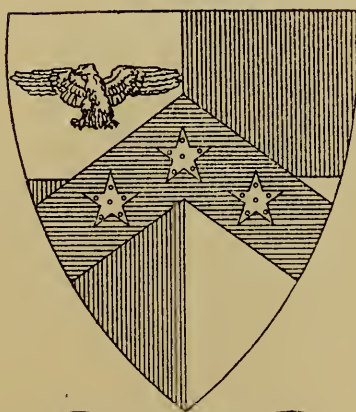
In the series following the arms of the Amherst chapter show the origin of the chapter, for the first quarter displays the old Torch and Crown, of the local society. Boston shows, like the university seal, the masterpiece of the first American architect, the golden dome of the State House by the great Bullfinch. Dart-



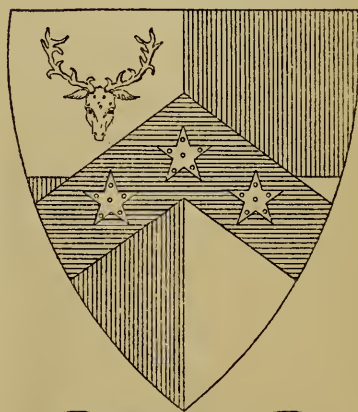
COLGATE



COLUMBIA



CORNELL

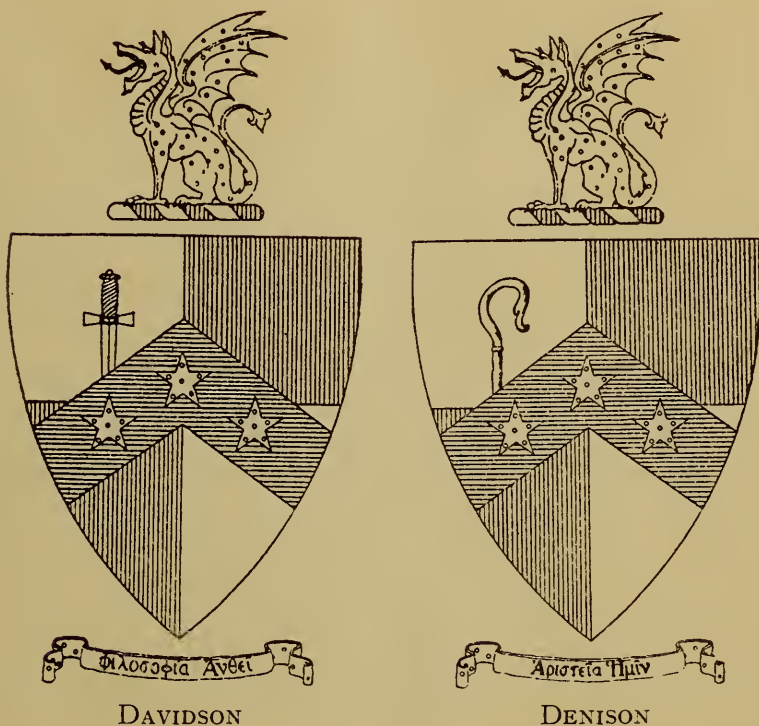


DARTMOUTH

mouth displays the device of the Earl of Dartmouth, a stag's head; Maine displays her historic pine tree.

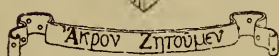
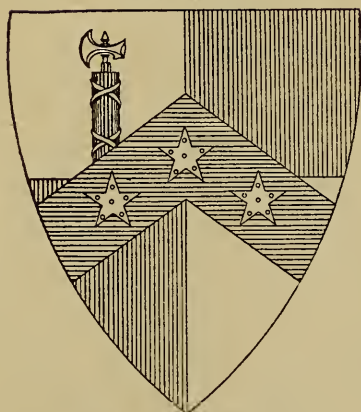
Columbia, proud of her origin and old name "Kings" has chosen the crown of King George III; Stevens, at Brother Baird's insistence after he had forbidden the use of his own arms, uses the castellated gateway of the old Stevens Castle Point estate, and Yale shows her university arms, the open book.

Colgate uses the family device of her benefactors, the Colgates,

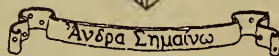
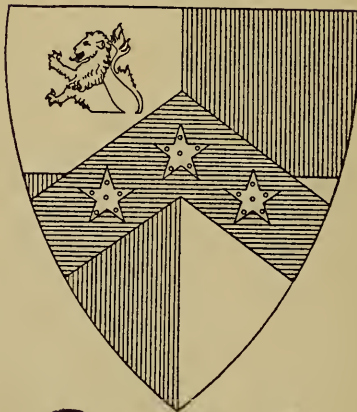


and charges with an escallop or shell. Cornell, to show that she is proud of her support from the national government as a "land grant college" displays an eagle. Syracuse uses the device of the ancient Sicilian city of that name, a dolphin the king of fishes, and Union takes from her college seal the serpent involved or with his tail in his mouth, the symbol of eternity.

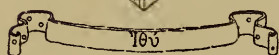
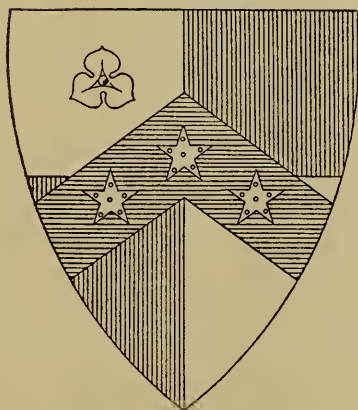
Dickinson shows a demi lion rampant, the crest of John Dickinson framer of the Constitution and patron of learning for whom the college was named. Johns Hopkins uses the cross trefle from Lord Baltimore's arms which are also used by the university; Lehigh, the book, heart and sun from her college arms, and Pennsylvania her well known pile of books.



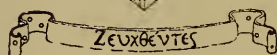
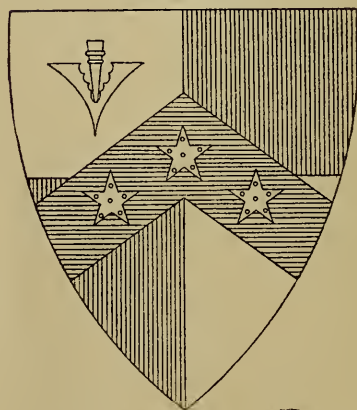
DENVER



DICKINSON



HANOVER



HAMPDEN-SIDNEY

Davidson goes to the college arms for the sword of the Roman legionary; Hampden-Sidney shows the broad arrow of the British Admiralty and for the same reason, it is the device of the Sidney family one of whose members was once Master of Ordnance and for safe keeping had all stores for which he was responsible marked with his device. North Carolina uses the cornucopia or horn of plenty from the State arms, and Virginia, the device of the man whose tombstone says nothing of his being twice president of the

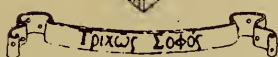
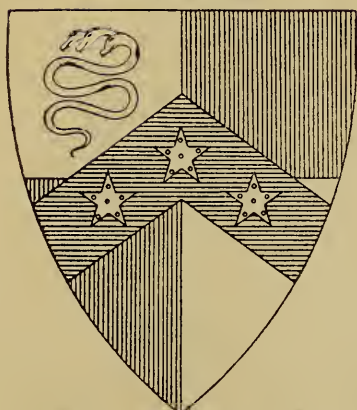


United States but records the fact that he was father of the University of Virginia, the fret of Thomas Jefferson.

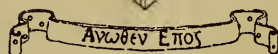
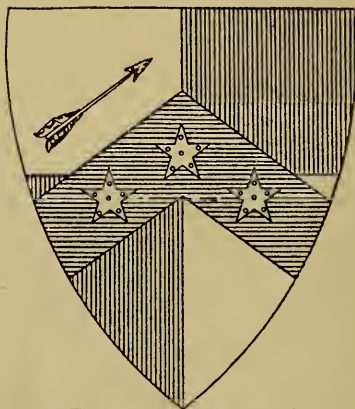
Bethany displays the bow from the college seal and recalls the relation of bow to string and college to chapter, "useless each without the other." Pennsylvania State uses the well known keystone with the three rondels of William Penn, and West Virginia, the little mountain state, the mountain from the state and college seals.

Central harks back to its proud dragon from the catalogue of 1881. Ohio State uses the pyramid from the university seal, while Wittenberg shows the Gothic doorway of the old castle church at

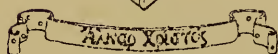
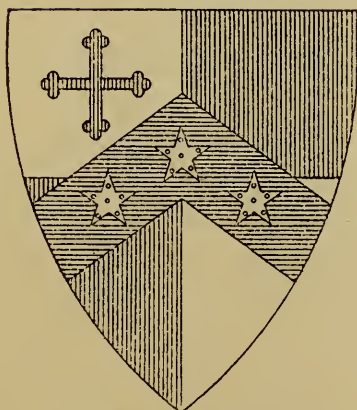
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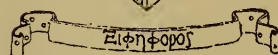
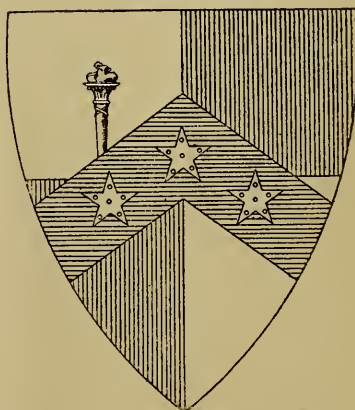
IOWA STATE



IOWA WESLEYAN



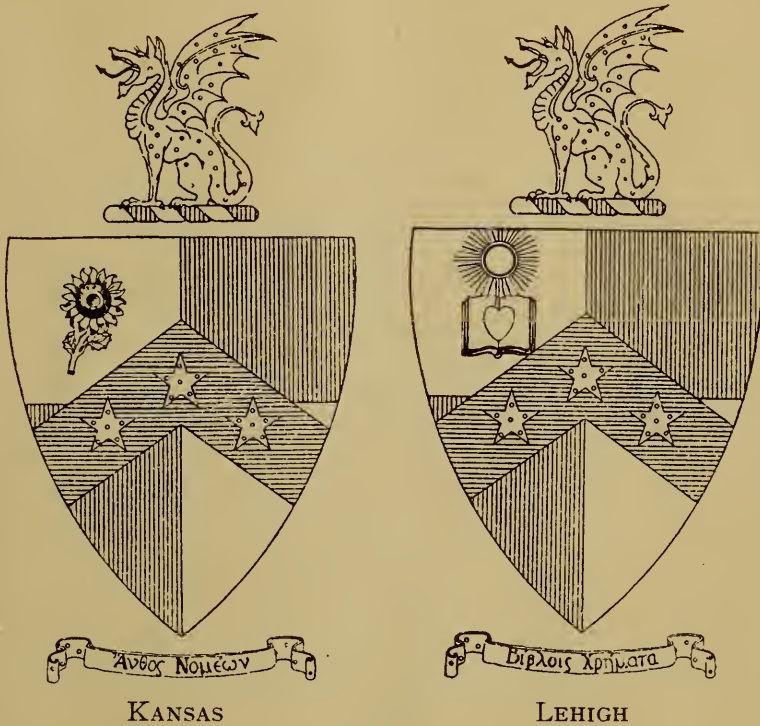
JOHNS HOPKINS



KNOX

Wittenberg with Luther's scrolls on which were written the ninety-five theses nailed to the doors.

Case has the globe of science from the institution's seal and Denison in defiance of Dr. Shepardson's protest, displays a Shepherd's crook. After brother Robb's solemn statement that his family had no arms and brother Wambaugh's refusal to discuss the matter, Ohio Wesleyan uses the urn from the catalogue of 1881. Brother Hanna was not consulted as to his desires and Wooster



KANSAS

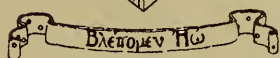
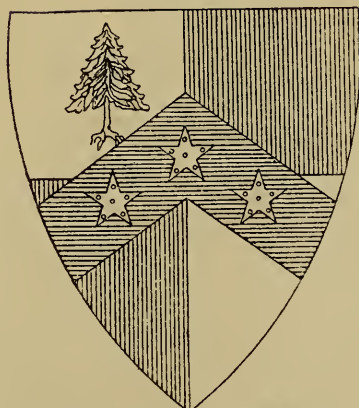
LEHIGH

displays the cross stuck through the infidel crescent, the proud and pious device of his crusader ancestor.

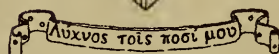
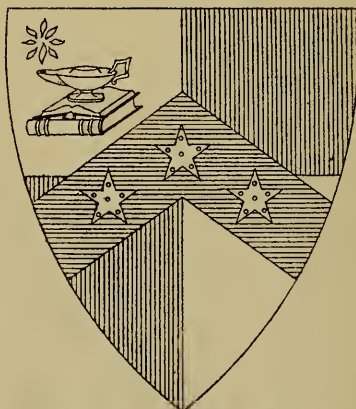
Hanover bears the three leaved clover of the old kingdom whose name it has. Purdue shows the gear wheel from the college seal and Wabash the altar from its engraving in the catalogue of 1881.

Beloit, grounded in the sturdy Presbyterian-Congregational tradition and having the saltire or Chi cross for a chapter letter, adopts a St. Andrew's cross fleurie. Illinois uses the conventionalized Beta rose. Brother Sisson refusing to report upon his family arms, Knox displays the torch of knowledge from the college seal. Northwestern bears the symbol of strength, an oak sprig, and Wisconsin takes her well known badger.

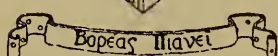
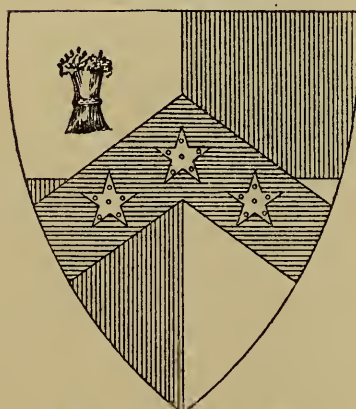
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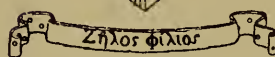
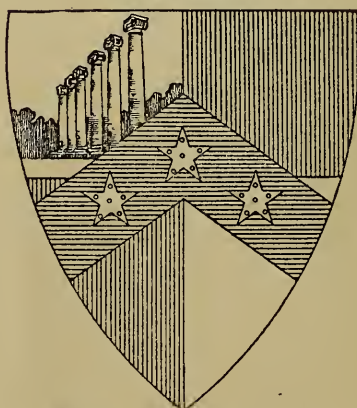
MAINE



MICHIGAN



MINNESOTA



MISSOURI

Iowa uses her state hawk and Iowa State the three headed serpent of the old local society, while Iowa Wesleyan bears an Indian arrow pointed upward. Minnesota displays a sheaf of wheat and Nebraska an ear of corn.

Kansas uses her sunflower, Missouri the six columns of the old main building still standing on the campus and about whose bases the university life clusters, and Oklahoma the war bonneted head of the noble red man. Vanderbilt displays a warrior's helmet



NORTH CAROLINA

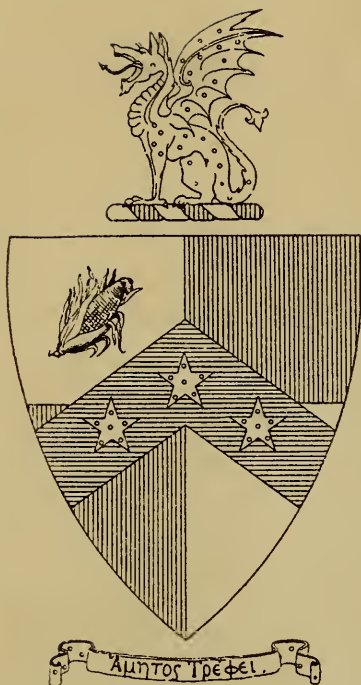
NORTHWESTERN

recalling the fighting in the "dark and bloody ground," Washington University the fleur-de-lis of St. Louis IX for whom their city was named, and Westminster forgets the sword of border warfare and bears the mightier emblem of the classical college, a quill pen.

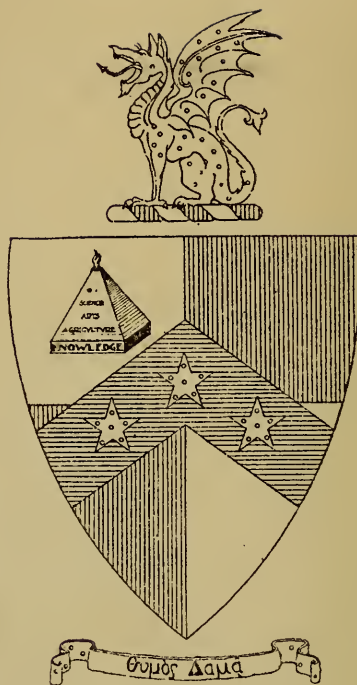
Colorado chose the three mountains which the state arms display and Colorado Mines the crossed pick and sledge of the mining engineer which the institution's seal shows. Denver shows the fasces from the arms of the State.

Stanford shows its familiar memorial arch. Washington State, having in mind Seattle's claim as the north Pacific's gateway, displays a portcullis. Oregon stands by with the battle axe as the guardian although "fifty-four forty" is a thing of the past and

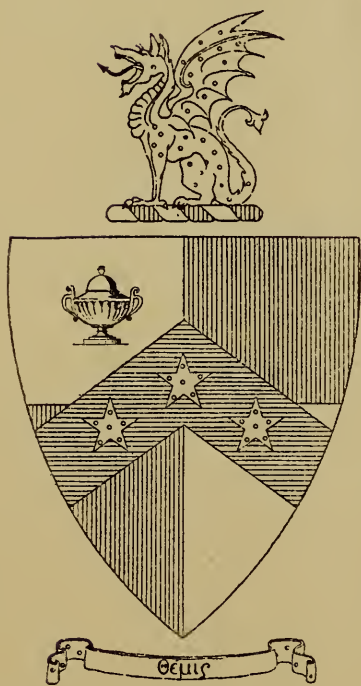
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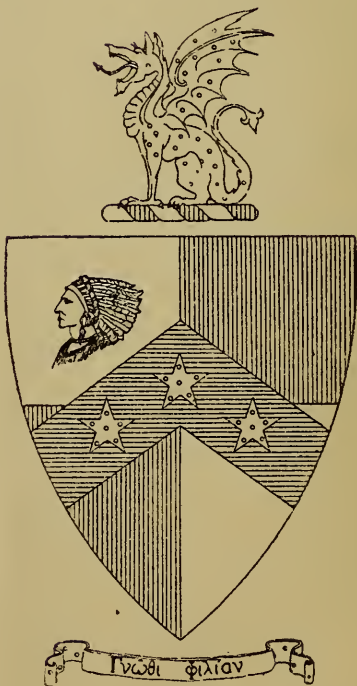
NEBRASKA



OHIO STATE



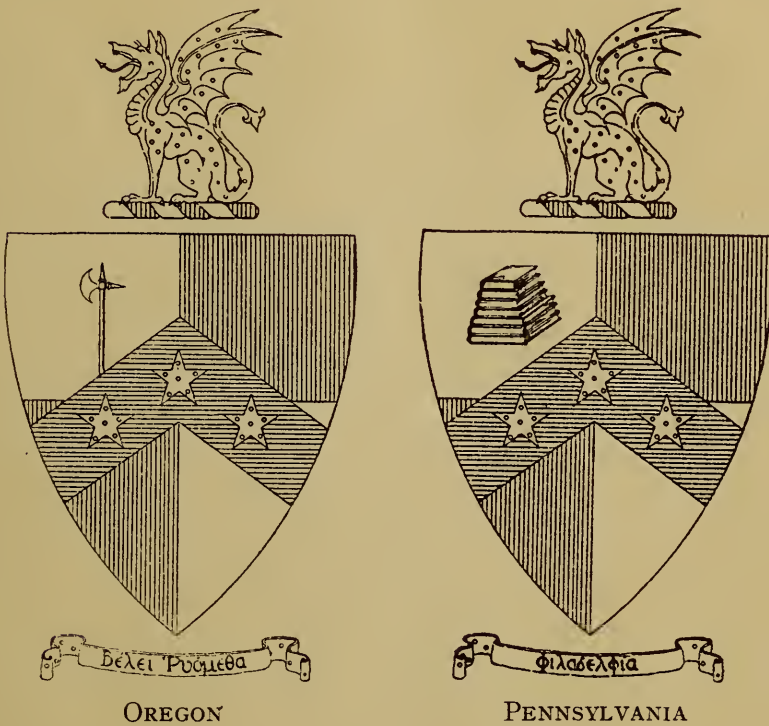
OHIO WESLEYAN



OKLAHOMA

peace and prosperity reign in that region as well as wherever the Beta arms are displayed.

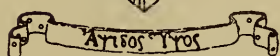
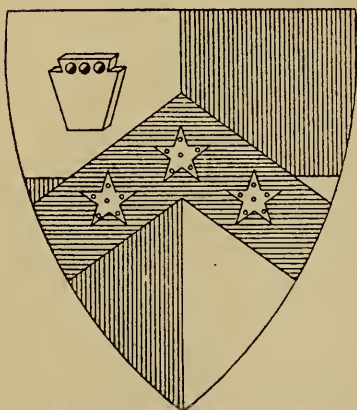
Now that the drawings are in the hands of the engraver and the reason for choosing each device has been recorded, I cannot refrain from thinking of the pleasure which the work has given me. The searching for and correspondence over each device has taken a lot of my time and the actual drawings of the accepted design has taken a lot of the firm's drafting room's time and has run into a



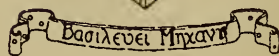
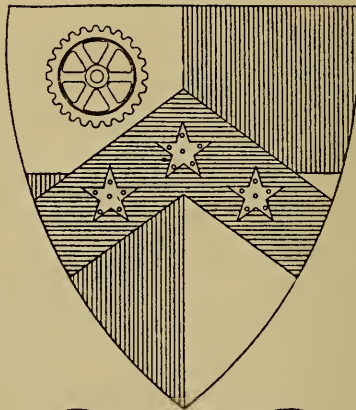
considerable sum of money, but I guess it is all worth while. Hanna used to say that during the years of work that went into the catalogue of 1899 the thing which sustained him was the almost daily uncovering of some lost member whose Beta spirit proved to be as present and as fresh as during his undergraduate days and I have so found it.

The correspondence has ranged in volume from a letter on my part and no answer from the chapter to a long and pleasant exchange of letters. I particularly enjoyed the correspondence with the undergraduates of Alpha Gamma, Beta Phi and two or three others and with graduates of a half dozen chapters. The correspondence with a graduate of Alpha Lambda was technical to

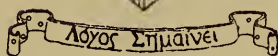
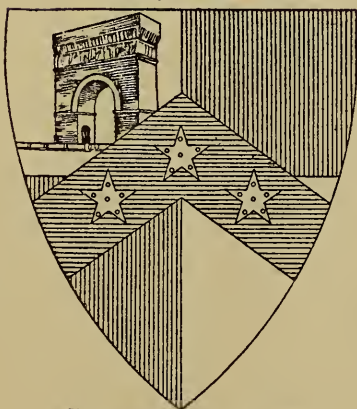
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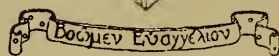
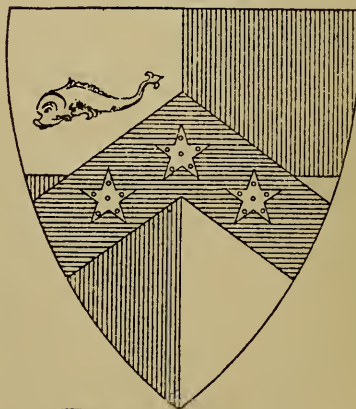
PENNSYLVANIA STATE



PURDUE



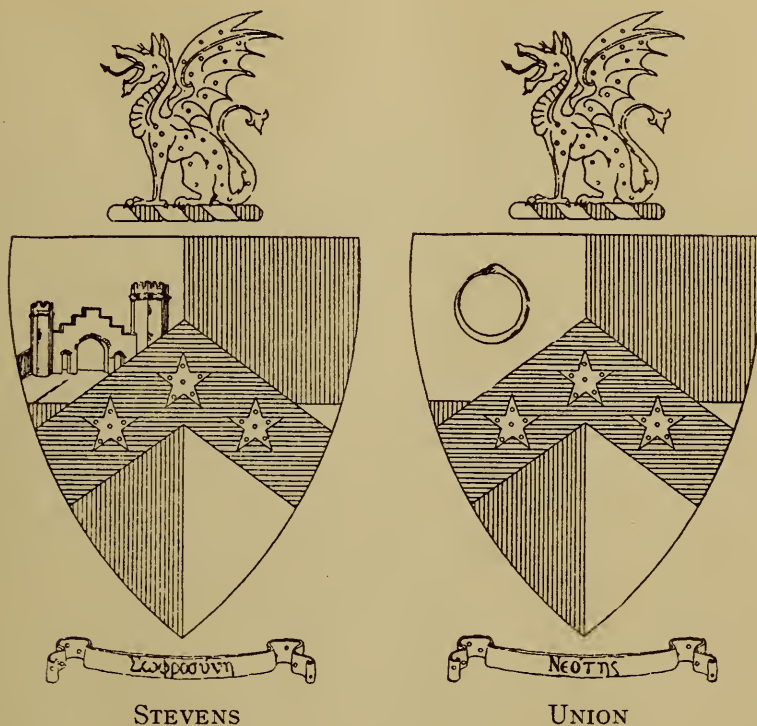
STANFORD



SYRACUSE

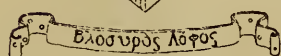
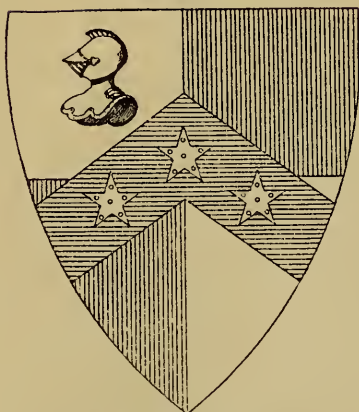
the last degree and anyone not a herald would have found it about as lucid as I did a "Treatise on the Theory of the Universal Ether" which I attempted to read the other day. I thought I had just the barest outline of mathematics in my head until I tried that.

A letter to a graduate of Phi whom I had not seen for thirteen years brought forth a gem and made the whole world look saner and happier. Then there were disappointments. Imagine Baird refusing the use of his family bear for Stevens because he was not

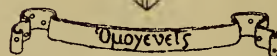
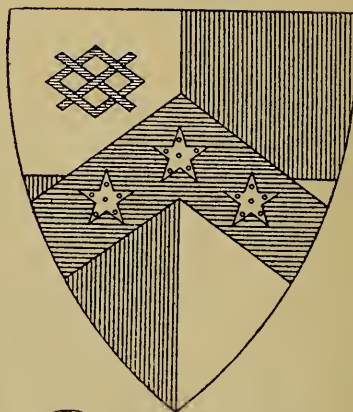


entitled to that honor in his own chapter not being its founder and Shepardson still growling because he was overruled as to a shepherd's crook for Alpha Eta.

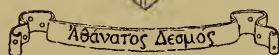
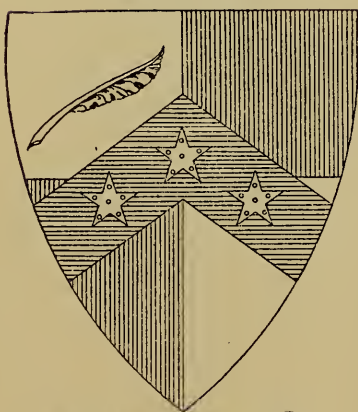
And the mottos! We had a lot of fun over them. First I borrowed Captain Spaulding's lexicon (we were visiting at the Fort Sheridan at the time) and started after them myself, I got verbs and nouns, nominatives and objectives, masculines and feminines hopelessly mixed. I cried for mercy and my military brother-in-law sat down with his sword and spurs on and his battery entraining for summer camp under the direction of the first lieutenant while he took my pencil and from memory put things right so Cal. Hanna himself couldn't change the accents.



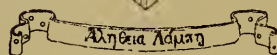
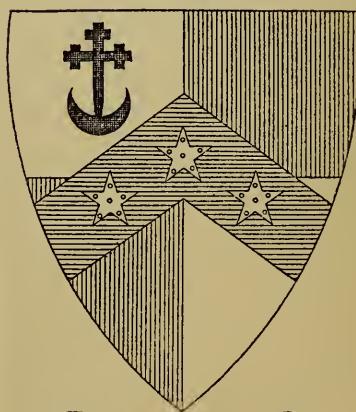
VANDERBILT



VIRGINIA



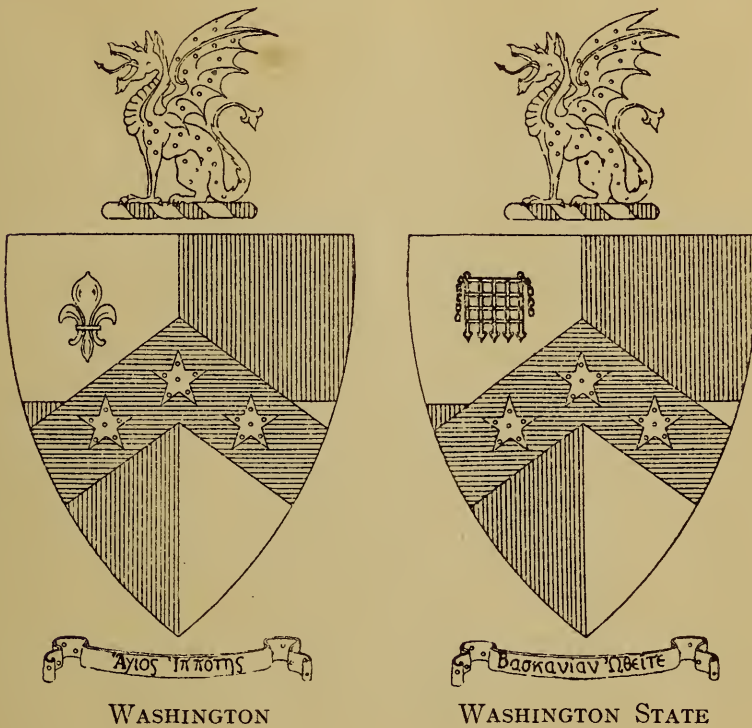
WESTMINSTER



WOOSTER

Hanna was busy so I next retained Prof. Hatfield at Northwestern as consulting Greek expert but I couldn't do much with him. He insisted on making all his suggestions in the form of orders and in the language of the Navy Department as though the calender still said 1898 and we were both still in the service. So I courtmartialed and "broke" him and turned the whole matter over to Hanna, time or no time.

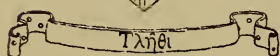
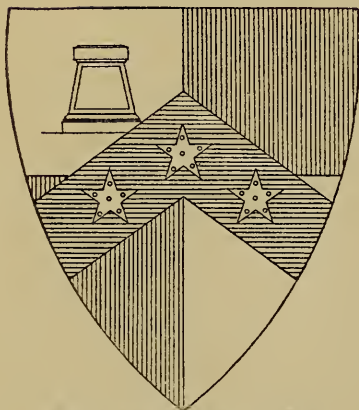
Hanna went on his vacation to northern Michigan and lived in



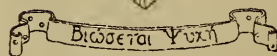
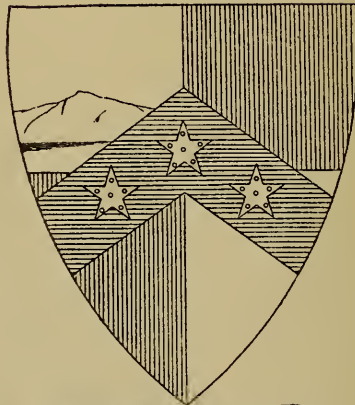
a shanty in the woods, wore a flannel shirt and did his own cooking but he took along a lexicon, a block of paper and a pencil and when the dishes were washed and all was quiet he wrote Greek mottoes by the light of a candle until he had done sixty-one of them and the job was completed.

For some of the chapters I had a hard time with the choice of a device. At Amherst I wanted to use the tilting spear of Sir Heffery Amherst, as the Dekes have done in their chapter armory, but finally took the device of the old local society. At Columbia, Baird wanted a liberty cap, but the chapter chose the crown which is really the Columbia device. At St. Lawrence the gridiron of the saint was an attractive symbol but the five lyres seemed better.

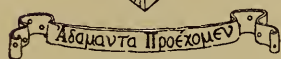
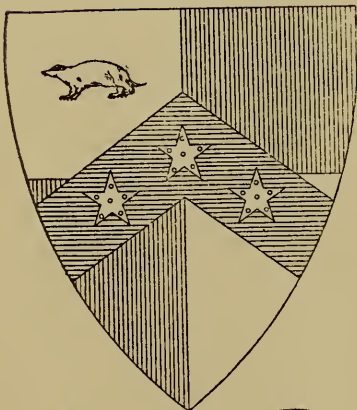
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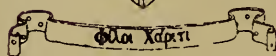
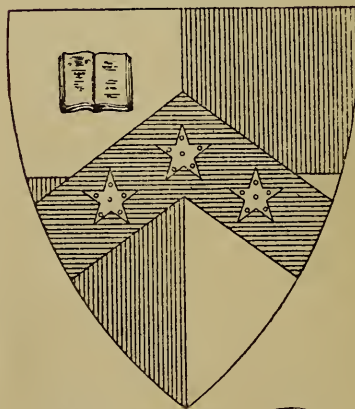
WABASH



WEST VIRGINIA



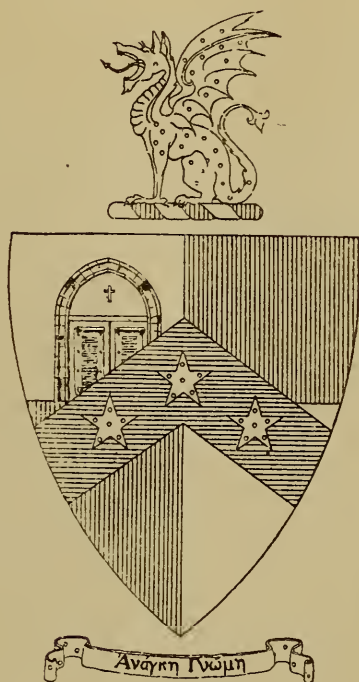
WISCONSIN



YALE

For Ohio State the lantern of the college paper met with favor, but the solidity of the pyramid seemed better and at Wisconsin the eye of the college seal was finally discarded for the State's badger.

Only two other fraternities possess a series of the chapter heraldry. Delta Kappa Epsilon at Dartmouth, Columbia and Minnesota use the same devices which we do and for the same reason, they are in each case the obvious symbol. Psi Upsilon similarly uses the anchor for Brown. The latter also uses a fleur-



WITTENBERG

de-lis for Harvard which is rather a curious coincidence. Our fleur-de-lis is the mark of cadency for the sixth of the house while theirs is purely arbitrary.

Should other fraternities devise chapter arms it will be interesting to note their selections. Some of our devices could well be made to represent the institution in any fraternity while others pertain to Beta Theta Pi alone.

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